

“With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all .....Acts 4:33”

....And it is with that same power that we all at Raj ministries can testify to the work of the risen Lord in our lives every moment , every day , and in every situation .... Hallelujah!!!

As we celebrate the most powerful message of the Christian walk, we also pause to thank Him for life and love and provision in so many areas of Raj ministries. In fact, even as this letter is being written Jenny has come through a very terrifying experience that has shaken each one here. Many of you have visited us in Rupaidiha, but many of you haven’t, so we will try to explain the topography of our location. Our school and all the property including our house and the girls home lies in between two landmark barriers.....on the one side is the Indian barrier and on the other side is the Nepali barrier. These barriers and gates with a bunch of border security personnel on either side have their rules and according to their rule the barriers come down at night and are locked. When they are locked it takes a long while and a lot of persuasion to get them to open the locks before the scheduled opening. Last week when Jenny took bad with heart palpitations, cold sweats, difficulty in breathing and fever it was a lesson in faith we had to learn and completely depend on God to keep His hand on her and sustain her till we could cross the barrier and go to the Emergency in Nepal. We still haven’t been able to have tests to find out the reason for this as it means a trip to Lucknow. We are still working on it. However when the staff and students heard Jenny was in hospital for heart related problems, we were told there was an uneasy silence in the entire school campus the entire time!!!! Bless them!!! We received calls from staff and students and some were crying, on the phone!!! After two days when Jenny went to office she was strictly told by the staff to get back to bed.....and rest !!! And that brings us to our very urgent prayer request....to pray that God will send a couple to help us and shoulder responsibilities. Roy will be 69 this year and Jenny will be 64 soon....we really need dedicated and sincere workers to help us.



Here is the story of Umang.....His name means “joy” and he is a joy !! He is the young brother of the couple we have been helping. Umang’s older brother married a young girl who gave birth to a baby boy four months ago. Soon after giving birth the young mother developed acutely burning feet and couldn’t sleep or rest due to that. Her husband who is working here as an unskilled worker brought her to us. We sent them to the hospital in Nepalgunj and got medicines. However, she got no relief and we even kept them with us on the campus as she went into depression and wasn’t eating and had been taken to the village “witch doctor” So to protect her we brought her and her husband and the parents of the boy to stay here. As they are very poor we wanted to make sure the young mother was being fed well in order to nurse the baby. One day after a week of medication she complained of dizziness and couldn’t stand. Jenny checked her medication she had been given by the doctor and discovered to her horror that the medicines she should have had in a week she had consumed in three days because in her mind she thought the more tablets she has the more quicker her burning sensation would go. Praise God she survived!! It would have been an entirely different story if she had run into severe complications!! God is merciful. While the family was with us we would pray daily with them and they trusted God for the healing. Today after three months of medicines, prayers and God’s healing touch she has been delivered from her pain and discomfort, the entire family has come to the Lord and they are happy!! But this brings us to Umang.....who is just 11 years old and would come to help with the baby as his older brother is the father. So one day while he was looking after baby he looked at Jenny with his big eyes and imploringly asked if he could go to school as he really wanted to learn to read and write. We didn’t have the heart to refuse but it was an awkward situation. Here he is all of 12 years and did not know the alphabet either. So he had to sit with 3 year olds. We

then put him with the 5 year olds. He hasn't looked back since that day...and there isn't a day that he misses school. He lives with one of our staff on the campus and eats with the girls. He has blended in with all of us and doesn't miss a single moment of studies, or Church. His name means joy and his smile and eyes are always lighted up with joy. His dream is to be able to study and have a good education and he loves the Lord. He is fearless in his faith in the Lord and declares his love for the Lord to everyone. This is nothing short of a miracle. Umang comes from a village where almost everyone is addicted to marijuana beginning from a very young age and women and young girls are illiterate and spend their lives either cooking or working in the fields while being abused. Umang has just one passion and that is to be educated. Every Sunday he is up on the platform in church and sings a chorus with all his heart even though he may not sing in tune!! He is so highly motivated and doesn't want to miss a single day in school. Please pray for him. Raj ministries is providing him all his meals, his clothes, his school uniform and stationery. If anyone would like to sponsor him, please do get in touch with us. Meanwhile his brother and wife want to serve the Lord too. The wife who is completely healed now says she just wants to serve us and do anything for us to repay us for all the love we have shown her in her sickness. This attitude is rare to find and we pray that she will continue to grow.

Sunita's story.....It is with great joy that we bring you this update of Sunita. A young widow with four boys to bring up in a totally male dominated culture has been full of challenges. Employed in our SEEMA project for the last ..... years Sunita has shown indomitable courage in the face of immense trials and struggles. Each day last year she has wept at work when

her tiny home was almost collapsing with the heavy rains.

She has spent sleepless nights sitting up and watching over her boys as they slept and protecting them from a leaking roof. Rivulets of water seeping through the roof damaged her belongings and finally she was forced to move out of the home she came to as a young bride and



take her boys and father in law to a rented room with no bathroom but a field to go to. Her little home was now in danger of collapsing. When Jenny shared this story on Facebook one of our friends picked it up and offered to get a new roof put for Sunita. We began the work in and have finally put the roof which will now give Sunita three rooms. The entire house had to be broken down and redone.

Surrounded by village people who were jealous of the help she was getting they picked fights and faults with every bit of construction that went up, but Praise God we have finally got the roof up. The funds and budget is over but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done before Sunita and her boys can move back. If you feel you would like to help Sunita move back to a completed home, please do let us know.....prayers appreciated.

The School ..... We have had an extremely busy year and as the academic year comes to a close this coming Saturday we are very grateful to God for many miracles that have taken place. This Saturday will be our Annual Prize Day and we are expecting more than 500 parents to attend. It will be held after a period of three years due to Covid. We have also been interviewing new admissions for the new academic session which begins on March 28<sup>th</sup>. We are praying that we will have a good amount of new admissions so that we can meet all the expenses and salaries for our staff.



We are so excited about the School toilets Project which began in January. This has been a long pending project. We are hoping to complete it soon. There will be 16 new toilets and it will be fully tiled, clean and hygienic. We are very grateful to our friends for helping us with this project.

The Emergency Room also needs to be completed. If this is completed we can have an ECG machine fitted and this would be a great help for all those “heart related” cases that occur mostly at unearthly hours in the middle of the night where getting past both the Nepal or India barriers pose a challenge and where every minute counts !!

Mahima Niwas..the House of Glory.....is doing well. The first storey still remains incomplete. We were able to do the plastering of the entire building but we still need to do the flooring and doors and fittings and electrical works. This year we had 12 girls appearing for their public exams. Among our oldest girls 5 of them appeared for the final year of Batchelors in Arts. Now we are awaiting the results. Our three pianists are pursuing their Grade 7 Exam from ABRSM UK online.



The Shalom Raj Niwas (boys Home in Jharkhand Pakur) is doing well. We have 7 boys now. The building is almost ready. The Pastor there who is looking after the boys is reaching out to many unreached villages and so far more than 3 Churches have been planted. Recently we were able to help them get a borewell made. There has been a huge water scarcity and the boys had to wait in line to fill up their water jars. However now they are able to get underground water.



All other areas of Raj ministries continue as always.....We have 14 buffaloes and 2 cows, and get 39 liters of milk daily. From this we are able to give the girls fresh milk and also sell some. The revenue in turn pays for the maintenance and food and fodder for the buffaloes. The buffalo poo meanwhile provides us with fuel to cook. We have two stoves that are used for cooking and the fuel comes from the buffaloes. Everyone who visits us always comments that nothing is wasted here on our campus!!! Everything, even poo is put to good use!!! The manure that comes out from the fuel is used as fertilizer for the fields. Right now we are about to harvest the wheat crop. After this is harvested the fields will be prepared for the rice/paddy which is a summer crop. As always the work never stops!!!

Rupaidiha Christian Fellowship....Is a blessing to many. We had a very blessed Daniel fast with daily prayer. Many adults found release from bonds of fear, bitterness and depression. We are now preparing to host a VBS this summer. This year we will be having a group of young people come from the Scripture Union. We know the leader. A few Churches from Nepal have requested about sending kids from their Churches. Our Church is spacious and we have good facilities and we really want to bless the children from Nepal. Most of them have never attended a VBS. Please pray about this and if you feel you want to help Raj ministries to reach out to the Nepali Church kids, please send a generous donation as we will have to provide them with meals and even lodgings for some who will from far.

There is much to be done and God is moving in marvelous ways. As we cannot write too much due to the sensitivity of the times, we request prayers for His covering over the work here and for much wisdom in these highly sensitive and turbulent times. May He strengthen us as we continue to sow seeds and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus ..... the author and finisher of our faith. We are very grateful to each one of you for your constant prayer support and generosity. You have literally carried us through some really hard and tough times.

THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED ..... HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR LOVING PRAYING FAMILY AROUND THE WORLD.



Roy, Jenny, Rachel, Ruthie and all of us at RAJ Ministries.